

1786. James Armstrong (d. 1794) of Pitt County was a Revolutionary War officer and member of the General Assembly (1788-1790). He was elected to the Council of State again in 1788. On November 22, 1784, Robert Burton, Thomas Eaton, and Abraham Sheppard were selected to complete the council. *DNCB*, s.v. "Leech, Joseph," "Hawks, John," "Armstrong, James"; Cheney, *North Carolina Government*, 164-165.

<sup>5</sup>Prior to becoming state treasurer, Memucan Hunt (1729-1808) of Granville County had been treasurer of the Hillsborough District. His tenure as state treasurer was marred by a controversy involving the payment of fraudulent claims for military service. He was never charged with wrongdoing, however. *DNCB*, s.v. "Hunt, Memucan."

<sup>6</sup>William Palmer of Beaufort County was the son of Robert Palmer (1724-ca. 1790). The elder Palmer, a member of the Royal Council and an aide to Governor Tryon, returned to England in 1771, leaving his North Carolina holdings in William's hands. William, who supported the Revolution, died ca. 1785, and the Palmer property was confiscated. *DNCB*, s.v. "Palmer, Robert."

<sup>7</sup>On the back of this letter is a poem written in Hannah's handwriting with the preface: "The following lines were written by the late Duke of Dorsen to a friend who pressed his Grace to marry for the sake of a large fortune." Hannah Iredell may be referring to Thomas Sackville (1536-1608), 1st Earl of Dorset, rather than Dorsen. He was a poet, playwright, and holder of various positions in the English government, including lord treasurer for life. This wealthy favorite of Queen Elizabeth I would have had no need to marry for money.

### *The Petition of Benjamin McCulloch*

[November 24, 1784]

To the Honorable The General Assembly of the State of North Carolina,  
The Petition of Benjamin Mc.Culloch Esquire, on behalf of Henry  
Eustace Mc.Culloh Esquire, one of the Persons named in the Act of  
Confiscation,  
Humbly sheweth,

That the said Henry Eustace Mc.Culloh, being conscious that he has never taken any active part in the War against America in any manner whatsoever, and that he is only chargeable with an inoffensive residence in Great Britain, where he had for the greatest part resided many years before, and in which he was induced to continue to reside by the distressed and melancholy situation of his only surviving Parent, who had unfortunately lost all his Family but himself, is earnestly desirous to have an opportunity in person of laying his case before the Legislature, and imploring a restoration of such part of his property as remains yet unsold.